

**CH-786**

**19<sup>th</sup>- 20<sup>th</sup> c.**

**Newport Historic District**

**Newport**

**Private**

Today, Newport Historic District is a small village consisting of a handful of 19th and early 20th century structures in a rural setting. The district is defined by a cluster of historic buildings located at the intersection of Stines Store Road and Newport Church Road. Specific buildings include the mid-19th century Sine House (CH-219), the late 19th century Newport Hall, (CH-218) and Newport Store (CH-726) as well as two additional early 20th century two-story dwellings at 11650 and 11651 Stines Store Road. A number of agricultural buildings are scattered throughout. The district is surrounded by open cultivated fields to the north, and Newport Run, a tributary of the Wicomico River to the east and south. Newport Historic District is significant for its collection of 19th and early 20th century buildings as well as its potential to yield important archaeological resources from the 18th century. Although there is scant visual evidence to reveal Newport's earliest history, the village was one of the first crossroads communities in Charles County.

Inventory No. CH-786

**1. Name of Property** (indicate preferred name)

historic                      Newport Historic District

other

## 2. Location

street and number not for publication

city, town	Newport	vicinity
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county Charles

**3. Owner of Property** (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name	multiple property owners
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street and number telephone

city, town state zip code

#### 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.	Charles County Courthouse	•	tax map and parcel:
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city, town	La Plata	liber	folio
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## 5. Primary Location of Additional Data

☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District  
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District  
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register  
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register  
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER  
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report  
☐ Other

## 6. Classification

Category		Ownership		Current Function		Resource Count	
						Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	district	<input type="checkbox"/>	public	<input type="checkbox"/>	agriculture		
<input type="checkbox"/>	building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	private	<input type="checkbox"/>	commerce/trade	<u>5</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure	<input type="checkbox"/>	both	<input type="checkbox"/>	defense		<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	site			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	domestic	<u>1</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	object			<input type="checkbox"/>	education		<input type="checkbox"/>
				<input type="checkbox"/>	funerary	<u>6</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>
				<input type="checkbox"/>	government		<input type="checkbox"/>
				<input type="checkbox"/>	health care		<input type="checkbox"/>
				<input type="checkbox"/>	industry		<input type="checkbox"/>
				<input type="checkbox"/>	landscape		<input type="checkbox"/>
				<input type="checkbox"/>	recreation/culture		<input type="checkbox"/>
				<input type="checkbox"/>	religion		<input type="checkbox"/>
				<input type="checkbox"/>	social		<input type="checkbox"/>
				<input type="checkbox"/>	transportation		<input type="checkbox"/>
				<input type="checkbox"/>	work in progress		<input type="checkbox"/>
				<input type="checkbox"/>	unknown		<input type="checkbox"/>
				<input type="checkbox"/>	vacant/not in use		<input type="checkbox"/>
				<input type="checkbox"/>	other:		<input type="checkbox"/>
						<b>Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory</b>	
						3	

## 7. Description

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### Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Today, Newport Historic District is a small village consisting of a handful of 19th and early 20th century structures in a rural setting. While today the village is primarily residential, throughout much of its history the buildings served a mix of residential, commercial and agricultural uses.

The district is defined by a cluster of historic buildings located at the intersection of Stines Store Road and Newport Church Road. Specific buildings include the mid-19th century Sine House (CH-219), the late 19th century Newport Hall, (CH-218) and Newport Store (CH-726) as well as two additional early 20th century two-story dwellings at 11650 and 11651 Stines Store Road. A number of agricultural buildings are scattered throughout. Although not individually examined, these agricultural buildings add to the historic character of the village. The district is surrounded by open cultivated fields to the north, and Newport Run, a tributary of the Wicomico River to the east and south.

The earliest structure in the district is the Sine House. Constructed in the mid-19th century, the Sine House is a 1 ½ story frame dwelling that is three bays wide on the eave elevations. Standing just outside of the village of Newport and bordering Newport Run (now Gilbert Swamp), the house has an overall double-pile plan with four rooms occupying the main block of the first floor.

Unlike the Sine House, Newport Hall and Newport Store are located close to the road. Newport Hall is an ornate example of Gothic-inspired Victorian architecture that stands prominently in the center of the crossroads village. The dwelling is two stories in height and five bays in width at the principal elevation. Steeply pitched decorative cross gables project from the three most prominent elevations. Ornamental features include lancet windows, scrollsawn porch balusters, pressed tin gable ornaments and turned wooden finials. The dwelling is closely associated with the nearby Newport Store (CH-726).

Newport Store is a two story front gable structure with a partially enclosed hipped roof porch around three of the four elevations. The store exhibits unusually elaborate Victorian details including fishscale shingles, a turned wooden finial, and a Gothic-inspired three-part decorative window adorning the front gable.

Erected in 1922, the dwelling at 11651 Stine's Store Road is a typical two-story, three bay, side-gable I-house with a decorative center gable and a wrap-around hipped roof porch. The 20 acre parcel known today as Bar None Farm also includes a structure that may have formerly been a storehouse. The structure is located at the intersection of Stines Store Road and Newport Church Road and is partially covered in vertical board siding and weatherboard. It has a single interior chimney flue, metal roof and centered doorway. The structure has a north/south axis with the entrance door facing Stines Store Road. The structure is currently used as a barn but its unusual design makes it unlikely that it was originally constructed for this purpose. To the west is a contemporary stable. Built in 1900, the dwelling at 11650 Stines Store Road is a single-pile center-gable I-house with a full-width porch. The dwelling is located on a 1.05 acre lot and includes a number of domestic and agricultural outbuildings.

## 8. Significance

Inventory No. CH-786

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history	
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime industry	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

Specific dates 17th-20th c.

Architect/Builder unknown

Construction dates 17th-20th c.

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance reports, complete evaluation on a DOE Form - see manual.)

Newport Historic District is significant for its collection of 19th and early 20th century buildings as well as its potential to yield important archaeological resources from the 18th century. Although there is scant visual evidence to reveal Newport's earliest history, the village was one of the first crossroads communities in Charles County and was located on one of the earliest county roads connecting the county seats of Leonardtown in St. Mary's County and Port Tobacco in Charles County.

Newport, at the headwaters of the Wicomico Rivers developed as a point of trade early in the Colonial period. In 1651, Thomas Gerard was granted a large parcel known as Westwood, to the south of the current village. In 1673, Franciscan priests from St. Ignatius established a mission in Newport, believed to be at the site of the current St. Mary's Catholic Church to the north of the village. A few years later Sarum, consisting of 1160 acres in Newport Hundred was granted to Joseph Pile. Pile's Wharf, which was either at or near the current village became a leading port and tobacco inspection company. In 1763, the first year in which records were kept, Newport had the second largest shipping volume, proceeded only by Port Tobacco. Newport also had the second highest price for tobacco.

The village is appears on maps as early as 1794 in in Griffith's Map of the State of Maryland.(1) As population grew Newport continued its prominence as an significant village. Martinet's earliest maps of Maryland published in 1865 (2) During the 1860's trader's licenses were issued to William L. Sheirburn, Richard Shannon and the company of Turner & Latimer. According to a Baltimore Directory, by 1880, Newport supported a population of 60, four public schools, two physicians, two mills, and two general stores, one also serving as post office, and one hotel.(3) During the 1880's merchants in the village included Edmund L. Sheirburn, Mortimer Padgett, Mrs. J.F. Boswell, F.R. Wheatley, George B. Shannon and the company of Clements & Ware.

### Endnotes

(1) Griffith, Dennis. Map of the State of Maryland Laid down from an actual Survey of all the Principal Waters, public Roads, and Divisions of the Counties therein....Philadelphia, PA: J. Tallance, Engraver, June 6, 1795.

(2) Martinet, Simon J. Martinet's Map of Maryland and the District of Columbia. Baltimore, MD:

□ Simon J. Martinet, C.E., 1865.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties For

Inventory No CH-786

Name Newport Historic District

Continuation Sheet

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(3) The Maryland Directory. 1880. Published by Frank Lewis & Co., Baltimore.

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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Inventory No. CH-786

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## 10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of surveyed property unknown

Acreage of historical setting unknown

Quadrangle name Popes Creek

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

Boundary descriptions were developed according to the concentration of standing historic structures within the village.

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## 11. Form Prepared By

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name/title Cathy Hardy/Historic Sites Survey

organization Charles County Planning

date 12/16/2003

street and number 200 Baltimore Street

telephone 301-\*396-5815

city or town La Plata

state MD zip code 20646

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
DHCD/DHCP  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville MD 21032  
410-514-7600

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. CH-786

Section 9 Page 1

Newport Historic District  
name of property  
Charles County, MD  
county and state

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**Major Bibliographic References:**

Brown, Jack D., et al. *Charles County, Maryland, A History*.  
Charles County Bicentennial Committee, 1976.

Carlisle, Rodney. *Powder and Propellants: Energetic Materials at Indian Head, Maryland, 1890-1990*.  
Self-published 1990.

Charles County Land Records, Charles County Courthouse, LaPlata, Maryland.

Hardy, Cathy Currey. "Phase III Final Report Charles County Historic Sites Survey."  
Charles County Planning. July 2002.

KCI Technologies, Inc. *Draft--Historic Context For the U.S. 301 Southern Corridor  
Transportation Study*. August 1996.

Klapthor, Margaret Brown. *The History of Charles County, Maryland*.  
LaPlata, MD: Charles County Tercentenary, Inc., 1958.

Lee, Jean B. *The Price of Nationhood: The American Revolution in Charles County*.

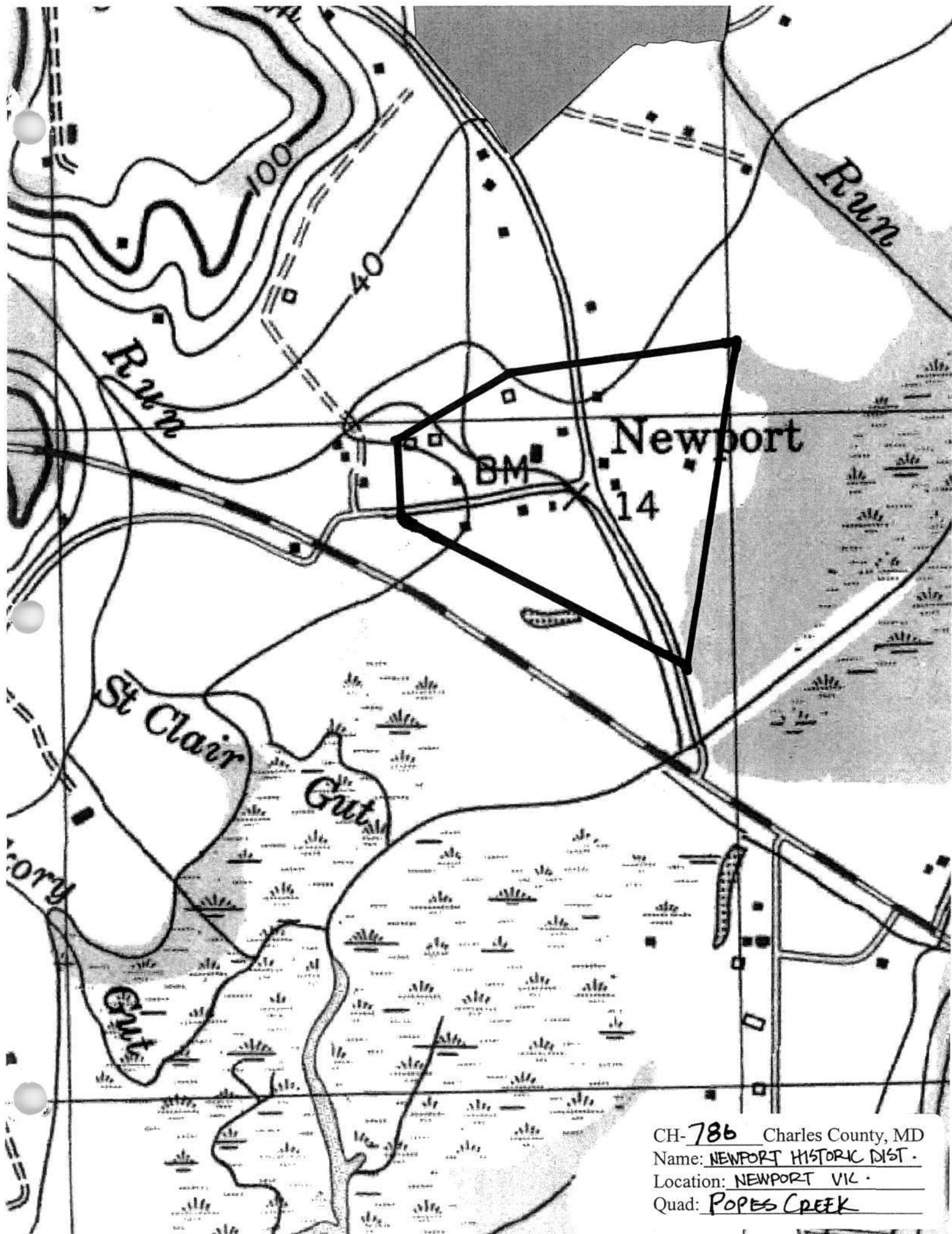
Lewis, J. Frank & Company. *The Maryland Directory*. 1880. Baltimore.

Maps

Griffith, Dennis. *Map of the State of Maryland Laid down from an actual Survey of all the  
principal Waters, public Roads, and Divisions of the Counties therein....* Philadelphia, PA: J.  
Tallance, Engraver, June 6, 1795.

Martenet, Simon J. *Martenet's Map of Maryland and the District of Columbia*. Baltimore, MD:  
Simon J. Martenet, C.E., 1865; revised 1885.





CH-786 Charles County, MD  
Name: NEWPORT HISTORIC DIST.  
Location: NEWPORT VIC.  
Quad: POPES CREEK





CH-786  
NEWPORT HISTORIC DISTRICT  
NEWPORT, MD  
C. HAPPY  
11/2003  
MD SAPO  
LOOKING E  
1054



CH-786  
NEWPORT HISTORIC DISTRICT  
NEWPORT, MD  
C. HARRY  
1/2003  
MD SHPO  
LOOKING NE  
2004



CH-786  
NEWPORT HISTORIC DIST.  
NEWPORT, MD  
C. HARDY  
11/2003  
MD SHPO  
LOOKING FOR  
3044





CH-786  
NEWPORT 11ST. DIST.  
NEWPORT, MD  
C. HARDY  
11/2003  
MD SHPS  
LOOKING N  
4004